

Date: Wed, 15 Jun 94 06:01:37 PDT  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #666  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Wed, 15 Jun 94                      Volume 94 : Issue    666

Today's Topics:

                    Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups  
                    Index to the rec.radio.amateur.\* Supplemental Archives  
                    Need Info. on International Callbook  
                    routing test

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: Wed, 15 Jun 1994 11:01:45 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.unomaha.edu!  
news@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Guide to the Personal Radio Newsgroups  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.2.1.2  
Archive-name: radio/personal-intro  
Revision: 1.5 12/18/93 14:15:53  
Changes: new mailing lists, .packet rmgroup, and .policy updates

(Note: The following is reprinted with the permission of the author.)

This message describes the rec.radio.amateur.\*, rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.info,  
and rec.radio.swap newsgroups. It is intended to serve as a guide for the new  
reader on what to find where. Questions and comments may be directed to the  
author, Jay Maynard, K5ZC, by Internet electronic mail at  
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu. This message was last changed on 18 September  
1993 to add the mailing lists for the new rec.radio.amateur newsgroups, to

note the rmgroup of `rec.radio.amateur.packet`, and to officially retire some (in)famous threads of discussion on `rec.radio.amateur.policy`.

## History

=====

Way back when, before there was a Usenet, the Internet hosted a mailing list for hams, called (appropriately enough) INFO-HAMS. Ham radio discussions were held on the mailing list, and sent to the mailboxes of those who had signed up for it. When the Usenet software was created, and net news as we now know it was developed, a newsgroup was created for hams: `net.ham-radio`. The mailing list and the newsgroup were gatewayed together, eventually.

As the net grew, and as packet radio came into vogue, packet discussion began to dominate other topics in the group and on the list. This resulted in the logical solution: a group was created to hold the packet discussion, and another corresponding mailing list was created as well: `net.ham-radio.packet` and `PACKET-RADIO`, respectively.

These two groups served for several years, and went through Usenet's Great Renaming essentially unchanged, moving from `net.ham-radio[.packet]` to `rec.ham-radio[.packet]`. Readership and volume grew with the rest of the network.

The INFO-HAMS mailing list was originally run from a US Army computer at White Sands Missile Range, SIMTEL20. There were few problems with this arrangement, but one was that the system was not supposed to be used for commercial purposes. Since one of hams' favorite pastimes is swapping gear, it was natural for hams to post messages about equipment for sale to INFO-HAMS/`rec.ham-radio`. This ran afoul of SIMTEL20's no-commercial-use restriction, and after some argument, a group was created specifically for messages like that: `rec.ham-radio.swap`. This group wasn't gatewayed to a mailing list, thus avoiding problems.

While all this was happening, other folks wanted to discuss other aspects of the world of radio than the personal communications services. Those folks created the `rec.radio.shortwave` and `rec.radio.noncomm` newsgroups, and established the precedent of the `rec.radio.*` hierarchy, which in turn reflected Usenet's overall trend toward a hierarchical name structure.

The debate between proponents of a no-code ham radio license and its opponents grew fierce and voluminous in late 1989 and 1990. Eventually, both sides grew weary of the debate, and those who had not been involved even more so. A proposal for a newsgroup dedicated to licensing issues failed. A later proposal was made for a group that would cover the many recurring legal issues discussions. During discussion of the latter proposal, it became clear that it would be desirable to fit the ham radio groups under the `rec.radio.*` hierarchy. A full-blown reorganization was passed by Usenet voters in January

1991, leading to the overall structure we now use.

After the reorganization, more and more regular information postings began to appear, and were spread out across the various groups in rec.radio.\*. Taking the successful example of the news.answers group, where informational postings from across the net are sent, the group rec.radio.info was created in December, 1992, with Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS, initially serving as moderator.

In January, 1993, many users started complaining about the volume in rec.radio.amateur.misc. This led to a discussion about a second reorganization, which sparked the creation of a mailing list by Ian Kluft, KD6EUI. This list, which was eventually joined by many of the most prolific posters to the ham radio groups, came up with a proposal to add 11 groups to the rec.radio.amateur hierarchy in April 1993. The subsequent vote, held in May and early June, approved the creation of five groups: rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc (to replace .packet), .equipment, .homebrew, .antenna, and .space.

#### The Current Groups

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I can hear you asking, "OK, so this is all neat history, but what does it have to do with me now?" The answer is that the history of each group has a direct bearing on what the group is used for, and what's considered appropriate where.

The easy one is rec.radio.amateur.misc. It is what rec.ham-radio was renamed to during the reorganization. Any message that's not more appropriate in one of the other groups belongs here, from contesting to DX to ragchewing on VHF to information on becoming a ham.

The group rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc is for discussions related to (surprise!) digital amateur radio. This doesn't have to be the common two-meter AX.25 variety of packet radio, either; some of the most knowledgeable folks in radio digital communications can be found here, and anything in the general area is welcome. The name was changed to emphasize this, and to encourage discussion not only of other text-based digital modes, such as AMTOR, RTTY, and Clover, but things like digital voice and video as well. The former group, rec.radio.amateur.packet, should be removed by September 21st, 1993. It is obsolete, and you should use .digital.misc instead (or the appropriate new mailing list, mentioned below). The group has .misc as part of the name to allow further specialization if the users wish it, such as .digital.tcp-ip.

The swap group is now rec.radio.swap. This recognizes a fact that became evident shortly after the original group was formed: Hams don't just swap ham radio gear, and other folks besides hams swap ham equipment. If you have radio equipment, or test gear, or computer stuff that hams would be interested in,

here's the place. Equipment wanted postings belong here too. Discussions about the equipment generally don't; if you wish to discuss a particular posting with the buyer, email is a much better way to do it, and the other groups, especially .equipment and .homebrew, are the place for public discussions. There is now a regular posting with information on how to go about buying and selling items in rec.radio.swap; please refer to it before you post there.

The first reorganization added two groups to the list, one of which is rec.radio.amateur.policy. This group was created as a place for all the discussions that seem to drag on interminably about the many rules, regulations, legalities, and policies that surround amateur radio, both existing and proposed. Recent changes to the Amateur Radio Rules (FCC Part 97) have finally laid to rest the Great Usenet Pizza Autopatch Debate as well as complaints about now-preempted local scanner laws hostile to amateurs, but plenty of discussion about what a bunch of rotten no-goodniks the local frequency coordinating body is, as well as the neverending no-code debate, may still be found here.

The other added group is rec.radio.cb. This is the place for all discussion about the Citizens' Band radio service. Such discussions have been very inflammatory in rec.ham-radio in the past; please do not cross-post to both rec.radio.cb and rec.radio.amateur.\* unless the topic is genuinely of interest to both hams and CBers - and very few topics are.

The rec.radio.info group is just what its name implies: it's the place where informational messages from across rec.radio.\* may be found, regardless of where else they're posted. As of this writing, information posted to the group includes Cary Oler's daily solar propagation bulletins, ARRL bulletins, the Frequently Asked Questions files for the various groups, and radio modification instructions. This group is moderated, so you cannot post to it directly; if you try, even if your message is crossposted to one of the other groups, your message will be mailed to the moderator, who is currently Mark Salyzyn, VE6MGS. The email address for submissions to the group is rec-radio-info@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. Inquires and other administrivia should be directed to rec-radio-request@ve6mgs.ampr.ab.ca. For more information about rec.radio.info, consult the introduction and posting guidelines that are regularly posted to that newsgroup.

The groups rec.radio.amateur.antenna, .equipment, .homebrew, and .space are for more specialized areas of ham radio: discussions about antennas, commercially-made equipment, homebrewing, and amateur radio space operations. The .equipment group is not the place for buying or selling equipment; that's what rec.radio.swap is for. Similarly, the .space group is specifically about amateur radio in space, such as the OSCAR program and SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment; other groups cover other aspects of satellites and space. Homebrewing isn't about making your own alcoholic beverages at home (that's rec.crafts.brewing), but rather construction of radio and electronic equipment by the amateur experimenter.

Except for rec.radio.swap and rec.radio.cb, all of these newsgroups are available by Internet electronic mail in digest format; send a mail message containing "help" on a line by itself to listserv@ucsd.edu for instructions on how to use the mail server.

All of the groups can be posted to by electronic mail, though, by using a gateway at the University of Texas at Austin. To post a message this way, change the name of the group you wish to post to by replacing all of the '.'s with '-'s - for example, rec.radio.swap becomes rec-radio-swap - and send to that name@cs.utexas.edu (rec-radio-swap@cs.utexas.edu, for example). You may crosspost by including multiple addresses as Cc: entries (but see below). This gateway's continued availability is at the pleasure of the admins at UT-Austin, and is subject to going away at any time - and especially if forgeries and other net.abuses become a problem. You have been warned.

#### A Few Words on Crossposting

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Please do not crosspost messages to two or more groups unless there is genuine interest in both groups in the topic being discussed, and when you do, please include a header line of the form "Followup-To: group.name" in your article's headers (before the first blank line). This will cause followups to your article to go to the group listed in the Followup-To: line. If you wish to have replies to go to you by email, rather than be posted, use the word "poster" instead of the name of a group. Such a line appears in the headers of this article.

One of the few examples of productive cross-posting is with the rec.radio.info newsgroup. To provide a filtered presentation of information articles, while still maintaining visibility in their home newsgroups, the moderator strongly encourages cross-posting. All information articles should be submitted to the rec.radio.info moderator so that he may simultaneously cross-post your information to the appropriate newsgroups. Most newsreaders will only present the article once, and network bandwidth is conserved since only one article is propagated. If you make regular informational postings, and have made arrangements with the moderator to post directly to the group, please cross-post as appropriate.

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Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can  
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu | adequately be explained by stupidity.

"If my car ran OS/2, it'd be there by now" -- bumper sticker

GCS d++ p+ c++ l+ m+/- s/++ g++ w++ t+ r

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73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

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Date: Wed, 15 Jun 1994 11:00:13 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.unomaha.edu!  
news@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Index to the rec.radio.amateur.\* Supplemental Archives  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.2.1.2  
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/archives

The following is a list of informational files for this newsgroup  
available via anonymous FTP from ftp.cs.buffalo.edu or the Australia/  
Asian-Pacific mirror at grivel.une.edu.au.

Questions to bowen@cs.buffalo.edu

1750m.band	- misc info on the 1750m band
222xvtr.zip	- PostScript code for KH6CP no-tune 222-MHz transverter
8085sys.zip	- 8085 system software, from QEX 11/93 and 12/93
alinco_180t_mod	- Alinco 180T modification for a TNC connection
ampr_coordinators	- coordinators for packet IP addresses
antenna_refs	- references for articles about antenna designs
antique_radio_info	- misc info about antique radio collecting
arrl-logo.ps	- ARRL logo in PostScript format
arrl_bib	- bibliographies from ARRL literature (ASCII format)
arrl_digital_minutes	- Minutes of the ARRL committee on digital comm.
arrl_fo_jobs	- descriptions of some ARRL Field Organization jobs
arrl_info_service	- announcement of the ARRLs trial information service
bbs_interface_specs	- specifications for message passing protocol
cal_pd_freq	- California police frequencies
callbook.tar.Z	- sources for the Buffalo callsign server v1.3
canadian.Z	- Canadian ham database in FCC format
carpet.loop.2	- Antenna for apartments and small spaces
clubcalls.Z	- database of US ham clubs
comb6.zip	- HF Propagation Predication program
docket_91-36	- information regarding the proposed scanner regs
dxcc-k2di	- ARRL DXCC country list
dx_w2iol.dat	- data for all country prefix, position, etc
dx_w2iol.doc	- documentation for the above database
element_credit	- rules about VE credit for earlier exams
elmers_admin	- information about the elmers list (see below)
elmers_index	- quick reference index of elmers
elmers_list	- list of elmers on the network
exam_ops	- info on exams and exam opportunities
faq_callsign	- frequently asked questions about the callsign server

- faq\_ham\_1 - frequently asked questions about ham radio (pts 1)
- faq\_ham\_2 - frequently asked questions about ham radio (pts 2)
- faq\_ham\_3 - frequently asked questions about ham radio (pts 3)
- faq\_packet - frequently asked questions about packet radio
- faq\_satellite - frequently asked questions about satellites
- faq\_shortwave - frequently asked questions about shortwave
- fcc\_part\_97\_1 - text of the FCC part 97 amateur regulations (part 1)
- fcc\_part\_97\_2 - text of the FCC part 97 amateur regulations (part 2)
- fcc\_part\_97\_3 - text of the FCC part 97 amateur regulations (part 3)
- fft.com - EGA/VGA DOS command for spectral display (QST 1/92)
- ffth.com - Hercules DOS command for spectral display (QST 1/92)
- field\_day\_92 - field day rules for 1992
- florida\_antenna - Florida State antenna law info
- guide2newsgroups - description of USENET newsgroups dedicated to radio
- ham\_sat\_sum - summary of information needed to get on satellite
- hams\_on\_usenet - list of ham operators and e-mail addresses on the net
- hamstacks - information about the question pool stacks
- handicap\_waiver - info on obtaining a handicapped test waiver
- hf\_rigs - QST reviews of available HF rigs
- ht\_info - general information about commercial hand helds
- icom\_ic\_w21at\_mods - increases the number of bands on an Icom IC W21AT
- intro\_to\_sw1 - info for aspiring short wave listeners
- intro\_to\_scanners - info for aspiring scanner listeners
- jlem.zip - Program, w/source, for 2kx8 ROM emulator (QEX 1/93)
- j-poles - description of j-pole antenna made from twin-lead
- keplerian\_format - specification for format of keplerian elements
- lead\_acid\_batteries - essay on lead-acid batteries
- license\_plates - guide to ham calls on license plates
- logos - PostScript logos for various ham organizations
- mail\_order - a database of electronic mail order shops
- manufacturers - names and addresses of ham gear manufacturers
- mav11.ps - postscript image of MAV-11 amplifier PCB (QEX 9/93)
- mlhacker.zip - newsletters about the MiniSport Laptop Hacker
- mods - directory containing radio modifications
- motorola\_ge\_service\_man - how to get service manuals for Motorola and GE rigs
- nasa\_select - places where you can hear NASA SELECT broadcasts
- new\_packeteers - helpful essays for new packeteers
- newcomers - tips and hints for those new to amateur radio
- nprm\_93-85\_text - text of docket 93-85 (message forwarding systems)
- nprm\_93-305\_text - text of docket 93-305 (vanity call system)
- oe\_m1\_review - review of the Optoelectronic M1 Handicounter
- oe\_3000a\_review - review of the Optoelectronic 3000A Handicounter
- packet\_clubs - organizations you can get more packet info from
- packet\_gateways - list of gateways from packet to Internet
- packet\_header\_standard - description of BBS message header standards
- packet\_misc - miscellaneous packet info
- packet\_software - list of packet software versions
- phone\_bbs\_list - phone BBSs for ham related issues/software

pio\_handbook - ARRL Public Information Officer's Handbook  
 postscript\_610 - postscript code to print an FCC form 610  
 pr\_docket\_92-136 - text of FCC PR Docket 92-136  
 pshift.zip - Phase-shift network analysis program, April, 1994 QEX  
 qex1193.ps - Postscript image of 13cm preamp board, 11/93 QEX "RF"  
 qexcvsd.zip - CVSD codec card test programs, April 1994 QEX  
 qexfq194.zip - Pascal program for PC frequency counter, Jan 1994 QEX  
 qexpad.zip - VHF Power Attenuator program, April 1994 QEX  
 qsl\_bureau1 - information about the ARRL QSL bureau  
 qsl\_bureau2 - "what should I do if" list for the QSL bureau  
 qst\_prodrev - index of ARRL product reviews in QST  
 quest\_pool\_novice - novice question pool - good after 7/1/93  
 quest\_pool\_technician - technician question pool - good after 7/1/93  
 quest\_pool\_general - general question pool - good before 6/30/94  
 quest\_pool\_advanced - advanced question pool - good before 6/30/95  
 quest\_pool\_extra - extra question pool - good before 6/30/96  
 rfi\_tips - good posting about RFI  
 sol\_geo\_data - description of daily solar geophysical broadcasts  
 sol\_terra\_terms - glossary of solar-terrestrial terms  
 sstv\_wefax\_info - general help for SSTV and WEFAX users  
 tasm.zip - table-driven assembler for weavrdsp.zip file  
 txt2eprm.zip - morse code ID generator programming utility (QEX 2/94)  
 usenet\_purchases - tips on buying and selling via USENET  
 vlf\_elf\_references - references for info on VLF and ELF radio  
 weavrdsp.zip - src to "Weaver Method Modulator Using DSP" (QEX 9/93)

For readers of this newsgroup both new and experienced, these files are a de-facto "Required Reading List" to provide definitive answers and pointers to other sources for questions that come up in this forum.

This is also your archive, so any additional articles, guides, or small PostScript graphics that you feel would enhance this collection are most welcome. Submit to Devon via his E-mail address above.

Thanks go to Devon Bowen, KA2NRC, for providing diskspace and maintaining these valuable archives, as well as all the authors who wrote and submitted the information contained in them.

Additional archives out there that have /pub/ham-radio directories are encouraged to "mirror" these files to provide redundant storage for these documents. Some of these sites (which may or may not mirror ftp.cs.buffalo.edu) include:

ftp.ucsd.edu	/hamradio
nic.funet.fi	/pub/ham
	/pub/dx
csseq.cs.tamu.edu	/ham-radio
suntan.tandem.com	/hamradio



col.hp.com	/packet
ftp.cs.buffalo.edu	/pub/ham-radio
bubba.business.uwo.ca	/hamster/ham
	/hamster/tcpip
	/hamster/mods
	/hamster/view
vax.cs.pitt.edu	/pub/arrl8
	/pub/ka9q
	/pub/ncpa
	/pub/tnc2
broilga.cc.uq.oz.au	/pub/ka9q
tomcat.gsfc.nasa.gov	/public
helios.tn.cornell.edu	/pub
wuarchive.wustl.edu	/mirrors/msdos/hamradio
	/mirrors/msdos/packet
	/mirrors/msdos/ka9q-tcpip
	/mirrors/cpm/hamradio
	/mirrors/cpm/packet
	/mirrors/misc/hamradio
	/mirrors/misc/packet
	/mirrors/misc/ka9q-tcpip
gatekeeper.dec.com	/pub/net/ka9q
sun.soe.clarkson.edu	/pub/ka9q
sics.se	/archive/packet
	/pub/packet-incoming
sabrina.dei.unipd.it	/pub/hamradio
uhunix2.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu	/incoming/ham-radio
caticsf.cati.csufresno.edu	/pub/ham-radio
ftp.waseda.ac.jp	/pub/toumon/ham-radio
garfield.catt.ncsu.edu	/pub/hamradio
plan9.njit.edu	/pub/hamradio
sunee.uwaterloo.ca	/pub/radio
grivel.une.edu.au	/pub/ham-radio
vixen.cso.uiuc.edu	/pub/ham-radio
iraun1.ira.uka.de	/pub/ham-radio
nic.switch.ch	/software/hamradio
	/software/mac/ham-radio
iesd.auc.dk	/ham-radio
akutaktak.andrew.cmu.edu	/aw0g (softkiss-mac)
gandalf.umcs.maine.edu	/pub/ham-radio # ls -l NO !)
rtfm.mit.edu	/pub/usenet/news.answers/radio
tamu.edu	/pc-sig
ftp.geo.brown.edu	/pub/hamradio
ns.risc.net	/ham-radio
oak.oakland.edu	/pub/hamradio
ftp.fidonet.org	/pub/fidonet/ham
ftp.halcyon.com	/pub/fidonet/ham
ftp.fcc.gov	/pub

ftp.demon.co.uk

/pub/ham

Questions about FTP mirroring and access to appropriate software should be directed to me, or do an Archie search on the keyword "mirror."

For those without FTP access (and only those without FTP access, please), there is an FTP mail server at ftpmail@decwrl.dec.com. Send the word "HELP" to this address for more information.

Additional documents on Usenet and other newsgroups may be obtained from rtfm.mit.edu via anonymous FTP or via mail server (send the word "HELP" to mail-server@rtfm.mit.edu).

The American Radio Relay League has recently made available a mail-server to distribute many of their informational documents in electronic form. Send E-mail to info@arrl.org with "HELP" in the message body for more information. These files are also mirrored on oak.oakland.edu.

Yet another mail-server has been made available by Steve Harding, KA6ETB. Send E-mail to ham-server@grafex.sbay.org with "HELP" in the message body for more information.

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73, Paul W. Schleck, KD3FU

pschleck@unomaha.edu

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Date: 15 Jun 1994 12:21:36 GMT  
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!  
ncar!csn!col.hp.com!srgenprp!news.dtc.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!hpuerca.atl.hp.com!  
hpuerca.atl.@ihnp4.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Need Info. on International Callbook  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Is there an international callbook on-line ?

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Date: Tue, 14 Jun 1994 21:15:29 -0500  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!news.uh.edu!uuneo.neosoft.com!mondy!urchin!  
mondy@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: routing test  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

to: ju5752@tamug3.tamu.edu

This is a routing test from the usenet  
users group  
ryryryryryryryr

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Date: Wed, 15 Jun 1994 11:42:25 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!  
greg@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <rogjdCqy0Dv.620@netcom.com>, <2svtr6\$ba@newsserv.cs.sunysb.edu>,  
<rogjdCr6MJJ.MEA@netcom.com>  
Subject : Re: \*\* WAITING PERIOD FOR LICENSE ?? \*\*

In article <rogjdCr6MJJ.MEA@netcom.com> rogjd@netcom.com (Roger Buffington)  
writes:

>  
>As you probably noted elsewhere on this thread, the ARRL has done quite a  
>bit to bring about faster licensing.

So the wait period (someone noted 16 weeks) is acceptable, then? Sorry,  
but absurd is absurd is absurd. And 16 weeks is absurd. Especially when  
we note that the actual work the FCC does takes about 30 seconds. Tops.

No, the FCC proposed a solution, instant licensing, which would allow  
them to do their thing without impacting people waiting to get on the  
air, and that great representative of Amateurs everywhere, the ARRL,  
shot it down. I suspect that even the old 'we took a survey and found  
that the will of the amateur community...' excuse won't even be available  
to be dragged out here. I can't imagine a ham who would check the 'NO'  
box on a question of 'Would you like to see immediate licensing and  
issuance of call signs for aspiring hams who pass a VEC session?'

>  
>The comparison between the DMV and  
>the FCC is not a valid one, in my opinion. The DMV licenses people to do  
>something that many of us \*\*must\*\* do in order to make a living: drive a  
>car. Ham radio is just a hobby, and FCC has made it clear that we are  
>far from its highest priority.

Or is ham radio an exercise of right of use of a public facility? It is  
the FCC's requirement that one get a license to do what one is otherwise  
capable of doing. The comparison is valid. Citizens pay for service, and  
cede a certain amount of restriction on their activities in return  
for an orderly society. In doing so, they have a right to expect to  
go about their business, including that of calling 'CQ' on 7.125Mhz  
if that be their wish and their qualification, as they will. A system

where the paperwork sitting in a pile for 15 weeks is an undue infringement.

And while we're talking about 'priorities,' that great excuse for not finishing ones job, all of it, instant licensing makes prioritization far easier, as it lessens the impact on the licensee. There is no clear reason why the right of the amateur radio operator, as a spectrum user, should be eclipsed by a business or any other citizen user, in any case.

Finally, without all the pressures associated with the back-log, and with a more efficient system, it might actually cost LESS to perform the licensing function. After all, someone has to schlep the piles of back-logged 610s from here to there, store all of them, keep them in order, and dig through them when someone's Congressman calls.

The FCC proposed a way out.

The ARRL got up to it's old back-up, 'Members Only' behavior, and stomped it down.

Oh, well. I guess that those newbies who get the ARRL hype about how 'We Represent You' in the midst of their long wait for licensing, and find out that the League was instrumental in keeping them waiting to get on the air will file the material with the rest of the junk mail.

Who could blame them?

'While you're in the interminable line, a message from the bureaucrat who keeps the lines long...'

Like a lead fucking balloon.

Greg

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Date: 15 Jun 94 12:50:05 GMT  
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!cat.cis.Brown.EDU!pstc3!md@ucbvax.berkeley.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <2svtr6\$ba@newsserv.cs.sunysb.edu>, <rogjdCr6MJJ.MEA@netcom.com>,  
<gregCrFsIp.4Mx@netcom.com>  
Subject : Re: \*\* WAITING PERIOD FOR LICENSE ?? \*\*

In article <gregCrFsIp.4Mx@netcom.com>,  
greg@netcom.com (Greg Bullough) writes:

|> No, the FCC proposed a solution, instant licensing, which would allow

|> them to do their thing without impacting people waiting to get on the  
|> air, and that great representative of Amateurs everywhere, the ARRL,  
|> shot it down.

Surprised me too. I figured the league would support it.

|> I can't imagine a ham who would check the 'NO'  
|> box on a question of 'Would you like to see immediate licensing and  
|> issuance of call signs for aspiring hams who pass a VEC session?'

You haven't read this newsgroup all that much then. This issue was  
hotly debated several months ago. Many hams are against this proposal  
because of the abuse it can generate.

|> A system  
|> where the paperwork sitting in a pile for 15 weeks is an undue infringement.

What next? Requiring a test is undue infringement?

|> The FCC proposed a way out.  
|>  
|> The ARRL got up to it's old back-up, 'Members Only' behavior, and  
|> stomped it down.

Actually, the League proposed electronic filing, where the VECs would  
submit applications electronically to the FCC, and all the FCC had to  
do is print off the licenses.

|> Oh, well. I guess that those newbies who get the ARRL hype about  
|> how 'We Represent You' in the midst of their long wait for licensing,  
|> and find out that the League was instrumental in keeping them waiting  
|> to get on the air will file the material with the rest of the junk mail.  
|>  
|> Who could blame them?

Remember the basic tenent of the League: We do what is best for the League,  
not necessarily what is best for amateur radio.

Sometimes those two ends do, however, coincide.

MD

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-- Michael P. Deignan

-- RI Center For Political Incorrectness & Environment Ignorance

-- 'Have you hugged your chainsaw today?'

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End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #666

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